

Message Text

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PAGE 01 HAMBUR 00813 061247Z
ACTION COM-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 NEA-10 EB-08 /035 W
-----030984 070217Z /20

R 061132Z JUL 78
FM AMCONSUL HAMBURG
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4828
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

UNCLAS HAMBURG 0813

FOR CAGNE

EO 11652: N/A
TAGS: BEXT GW
SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON NEAR- AND MIDDLE EAST
ASSOCIATION

REF: (A) BONN 11862, (B) COONTZ/GWYNNE TELCON, JUNE 28

1. COMOFF CALLED ON NEAR- AND MIDDLE EAST
ASSOCIATION (NAH- UND MITTLE-OST VEREIN) AND INTERVIEWED
GENERAL SECRETARY CONCERNING NATURE AND WORK OF ORGANIZATION.
THE ASSOCIATION OPERATES WITHIN FRAMEWORK OF GOVERNMENT,
SEMI-GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE NETWORK OF ORGANIZATIONS
INTERESTED IN THE MEMBER STATES OF THE ARAB LEAGUE, AS WELL AS
IN TURKEY, ISRAEL, IRAN, AFGHANISTAN AND PAKISTAN. TO A
GREAT EXTENT THE ASSOCIATION, PLUS ITS COUNTERPARTS FOR
OTHER WORLD REGIONS, PERFORMS SERVICES SIMILAR TO
THOSE RENDERED BY E/C SECTIONS IN AMEMBASSIES AND
CONSULATES, FOREIGN CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE ABROAD AND
MARKET RESEARCH FIRMS. THE JOURNAL OF COMMERCE ARTICLE
CITING THE ASSOCIATION AS BEING RESPONSIBLE FOR GERMANY'S
FAVORABLE TRADE BALANCE WITH THE MIDDLE EAST OVERSTATES
THE CASE, BUT THE OVERALL GERMAN EFFORT DESERVES CLOSE
ATTENTION.

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2. ACCORDING TO THE GENERAL SECRETARY, THE ORGANI-
ZATION PRIMARILY ASSISTS MEDIUM - AND SMALL-SIZE FIRMS
WHICH DO BUSINESS IN THE NEAR AND MIDDLE EAST. LARGE
GERMAN MEMBER FIRMS, MUCH AS THEIR US COUNTER-
PARTS, TEND TO OPEINDEPENDENTLY BUT USE ASSOCIA-
TION'S AND RELATES ORGANIZATIONS' RESEARCH REPORTS.

3. MAIN SERVICES OF THE ASSOCIATION ARE: (1) PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION OF PUBLICATIONS INFORMING MEMBERS AND ASSOCIATES OF REGIONAL ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS, GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE DEVELOPMENT PLANS AND PROJECTS, GOVERNMENT TENDERS, NEW REGULATIONS AND TRADE OPPORTUNITIES IN THE REGION; (2) ORIGINATING OR PROCURING REPORTS ON REGIONAL MARKET DEVELOPMENTS; (3) INVESTIGATING POTENTIAL PARTNERS AND FURNISHING ADDRESSES OF REPRESENTATIVES, ATTORNEYS, CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE, ETC.; (4) OBTAINING NECESSARY DATA AND FACTS FOR INVESTMENT AND JOINT VENTURE DECISIONS; (5) REPRESENTING GERMAN FIRMS IN MATTERS OF ECONOMIC OR BUSINESS NATURE ON SPECIAL COMMITTEES, AT TRADE FAIRS AND CONFERENCES, AND ON NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL BODIES VIS-A-VIS BOTH GERMAN AND FOREIGN AUTHORITIES.

4. THE ASSOCIATION IS CLOSELY CONNECTED TO THE FRG ECONOMIC MINISTRY, RECEIVING GUIDANCE FROM THE MINISTRY ON OCCASION AND IN TURN SERVING IN AN ADVISORY CAPACITY TO THE MINISTRY. ACCORDING TO THE GENERAL SECRETARY THE ASSOCIATION HAS ITS OWN AGENTS IN PRINCIPAL NEAR EAST AND MIDDLE EAST CAPITALS, IT RECEIVES PERTINENT REPORTS FROM GERMAN FOREIGN SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS, OTHER GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS, AND LARGE GERMAN COMPANIES ABROAD, AND CURRENTLY COOPERATES IN UNCLASSIFIED

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THE MONITORING OF REGIONAL PUBLICATIONS.

5. THE ASSOCIATION COOPERATES CLOSELY WITH THE GERMAN-ORIENT INSTITUTE (DEUTSCHES ORIENT-INSTITUT), WHICH CONCERNS ITSELF WITH RESEARCH, INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTATION ON THE NEAR AND MIDDLE EAST. THIS RESEARCH ACTIVITY IS ORGANIZED ON AN INTER- AND MULTIDISCIPLINARY BASIS AND DEALS WITH CURRENT SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS IN THE REGION. KEY AREAS OF INSTITUTE ATTENTION ARE: (1) ECONOMIC AND DEVELOPMENT POLICIES OF THE OIL-PRODUCING COUNTRIES IN THE REGION, PARTICULARLY IRAQ, IRAN AND SAUDI ARABIA; (2) POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC COOPERATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST ON THE BASIS OF THE FINANCIAL SITUATION; (3) FEEDBACK ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, PARTICULARLY REGARDING INDUSTRIALIZATION; (4) LABOR PROBLEMS; (5) CONCERN OF THE AREA FOR A MORE INDEPENDENT POSITION WITHIN INTERNATIONAL POLITICS; AND (6) OBSERVATION OF THE PROBLEMS OCCURRING IN EUROPEAN-ARAB RELATIONS. RESULTS OF INSTITUTE RESEARCH ARE PUBLISHED REGULARLY, IN ADDITION TO A QUARTERLY JOURNAL "ORIENT," THE ONLY JOURNAL

DEALING EXCLUSIVELY WITH THE MODERN MIDDLE EAST IN
THE FRG.

6. THE INSTITUTE HAS A LIBRARY (OPEN TO THE PUBLIC)
OF 20,000 VOLUMES. ON BEHALF OF THE GERMAN RESEARCH
ASSOCIATION (DEUTSCHE FORSCHUNGSGEMEINSCHAFT) IT
COLLECTS PUBLICATIONS OF GOVERNMENT AND NON-GOVERN-
MENT ORGANIZATIONS IN THE REGION, INCLUDING OFFICIAL
GAZETTES, LEGAL AND OFFICIAL PAPERS, AND PARLIAMENTARY
RECORDS. THERE IS ALSO A COLLECTION OF 115 JOURNALS
IN EUROPEAN AND ORIENTAL LANGUAGES, A CLIPPINGS ARCHIVE
OF 18 NEWSPAPERS AND A MICRO-FILM ARCHIVE OF 22 OTHERS.

7. ATTACHED TO THE INSTITUTE IS THE MIDDLE EAST
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DOCUMENTATION CENTER (DOKUMENTATIONS-LEITSTELLE
MODERNER ORIENT). ITS ROLE IS THE CENTRAL COLLECTION
AND MAKING AVAILABLE MATERIAL RELEVANT TO THE STUDY
OF THE REGION. FINALLY, THE GERMAN ORIENT INSTITUTE
IS THE SECRETARIAT OF THE ASSOCIATION FOR CONTEMPORARY
RESEARCH AND DOCUMENTATION ON THE MIDDLE
EAST (ARBEITSGEMEINSCHAFT VORDERER ORIENT FÜR GEGEN-
WARTSBEZOGENE FORSCHUNG UND DOKUMENTATION), COMPRISED
OF "NUMEROUS" INSTITUTES IN THE FRG INTERESTED IN
CONTEMPORARY MIDDLE EAST RESEARCH.

8. WITHIN THIS SETUP THE NEAR AND MIDDLE EAST ASSOCIA-
TION PLAYS A DIRECTING AND COORDINATING ROLE. SIMILAR
REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS ARE THE AFRICA ASSOCIATION ,
THE EAST ASIA ASSOCIATION, THE AUSTRALIA-NEW ZEALAND
ASSOCIATION AND THE IBERO-AMERICA ASSOCIATION. KISELYAK

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978HAMBUR00813
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780278-0576
Format: TEL
From: HAMBURG
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780792/aaaaczdn.tel
Line Count: 152
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: db77827a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION COM
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 BONN 11862
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2107262
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON NEAR- AND MIDDLE EAST ASSOCIATION
TAGS: BEXP, GE, SF
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/db77827a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014